

Section 1: The Geography of the Nile
Ancient Egypt and Nubia

Reading Readiness Guide

Anticipation Guide

How much do you think you know about the geography of the Nile River? As your teacher reads the statements, mark whether you think each statement is true (T) or false (F) in the Me column. Then discuss your answers with your group and mark the group's decision in the Group column. As you read, look for information that will clarify whether the statements are true or false.

After you read the section, read the statements again and mark the After Reading column to indicate whether they are true or false.

Before Reading		Statements	After Reading
Me	Group		
		1. The Nile River is the world's longest river.	
		2. The Nile River flows southward toward Africa.	
		3. Because it rarely rained in the region of Lower Nubia, people had to live close to the Nile for their water supply.	
		4. Farming along the banks of the Nile was ideal because each spring the Nile flooded the riverbanks and deposited a rich layer of sediment.	
		5. The hot sands of the Sahara Desert helped protect Egypt and Nubia from foreign attacks.	
		6. In Egypt, the Nile could not be used to transport goods by ship because of the strong rapids.	

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Guided Reading and Review

A. As You Read

Directions: As you read Section 1, complete the statements below.

1. An early description of the Nile was written by the Greek historian _____.
2. The direction that the Nile River flows is _____ to the Mediterranean Sea from its sources in Africa.
3. The Blue Nile and White Nile meet in the present-day country of _____.
4. The marshy region of the Nile near the Mediterranean Sea is known as _____ Egypt.
5. The ancient Egyptians called their land _____, "the black land," because of the dark soil left by the Nile's floods.
6. Deserts to the east and west protected the Egyptians from _____ by foreign enemies.
7. Settled farming communities began to appear in Egypt and Nubia by around _____.

B. Reviewing Key Terms

Directions: Complete each sentence by writing the correct term in the blank provided.

8. _____ is an ancient region in the Nile River Valley, on the site of present-day southern Egypt and northern Sudan.
9. In the Nubian section of the Nile, the river contains many rock-filled rapids, or _____.
10. The _____ of the Nile, a triangular-shaped plain of very rich farmland, is located in Lower Egypt.
11. Water from the Nile River deposited rich, fertile soil called _____ when the river overflowed its banks.